

THE LABOUR FORCE
FEBRUARY 1978

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AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This bulletin contains estimates of the civilian labour force for February 1978 and revised estimates for earlier periods. The estimates are derived from the population survey, which is now being conducted monthly. Previously, surveys were conducted in February, May, August and November each year.

2. A summary of the survey results is published in advance of this more detailed bulletin in *The Labour Force (Preliminary)* (6202.0). Preliminary unemployment estimates are also issued in advance of this publication in *Unemployment, Preliminary Estimates* (6201.0).

3. Although emphasis in the survey is placed on the regular collection of data on demographic and labour force characteristics of the population, supplementary surveys of particular aspects of the labour force or of other subjects are carried out from time to time. Statistics from supplementary surveys are published in bulletins which are available free on request. A list of titles is given on page 23.

The population survey

4. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week before the interview (i.e. the survey week). Before February 1978 the interviews were spread over four weeks, chosen so that the survey weeks generally fell within the limits of the calendar month.

Scope

5. The survey includes all persons aged fifteen years and over except:

- (a) members of the permanent defence forces
- (b) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations
- (c) non-Australians on tour or holidaying in Australia, and
- (d) members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

Definitions

6. The labour force category to which a person is assigned depends on his *actual activity* (i.e. whether working, looking for work, etc.) during the survey week. The following definitions relate only to those persons within the scope of the survey.

7. *Employed persons* comprise all those aged 15 years and over who, during the survey week:

- (a) worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (including employees, employers and self-employed persons); or
- (b) worked for 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. unpaid family helper); or
- (c) were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: on paid leave; on leave without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; stood down without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week; on strike or locked out; on workers' compensation and expected to be returning to their job; or receiving wages or salary while undertaking full-time study; or
- (d) were employers or self-employed persons who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

8. *Unemployed persons* are those aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the survey week, and

- (a) had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the survey week and:
 - (i) were available for work in the survey week, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the survey week); or
 - (ii) were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the survey week and would have started in the survey week if the job had been available then;

or (b) were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the survey week (including the whole of the survey week) for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.

9. *Unemployed persons looking for first job* are those who had never worked for two weeks or more in a full-time job.

10. The *unemployment rate* for any group is the number unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labour force (i.e. employed plus unemployed) in the same group.

11. The *labour force* comprises all persons who, during the survey week, were employed or unemployed, as defined in paragraphs 7 and 8.

12. The *labour force participation rate* for any group is the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group. Because it is not practicable to ascertain the birthplace of persons in institutions (who are classified as not in the labour force), labour force participation rates for persons classified by birthplace are calculated by using population estimates which exclude those in institutions.

13. *Full-time workers* are those who usually work 35 hours a week or more and others who, although usually part-time workers worked 35 hours or more during the survey week. *Part-time workers* are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the survey week. When recording hours of work, fractions of an hour are disregarded.

14. *Hours of work.* The figures of aggregate hours and of average hours refer to actual hours worked during the survey week, not hours paid for. The figures may be affected by public holidays, leave, absenteeism; temporary absence from work due to sickness, injury, accident and industrial disputes; and stoppages of work due to bad weather, plant breakdown etc. When hours of work are recorded fractions of an hour are disregarded and this results in slightly lower figures than would be the case if actual time worked was recorded. Persons stood down for the whole of the survey week without pay because of bad weather or plant breakdown at their place of employment are regarded as employed and therefore are included (working no hours) in the calculation of average hours worked. Persons stood down in the survey week for reasons other than bad weather and plant breakdown and waiting to be called back to their job are regarded as unemployed and are therefore excluded from the calculation.

15. *Persons not in the labour force* are those who, during the survey week, were not in the categories 'employed' or 'unemployed'. This category includes: persons who were keeping house (unpaid), attending an educational institution (school, university, etc.), retired, voluntarily inactive, permanently unable to work, inmates of institutions, trainee teachers, members of contemplative religious orders, and persons whose only activity during the survey week was jury service or unpaid voluntary work for a charitable organisation, provided they —

- (a) had not actively looked for work in the four weeks up to the end of the survey week, and
- (b) in the survey week :
 - (i) were without a job, business or farm; or
 - (ii) had worked for less than one hour for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind; or
 - (iii) had worked for less than 15 hours without pay in a family business or farm; or
 - (iv) had been stood down without pay for four weeks or more up to the end of the survey week.

16. Although the wording of the above definitions of employed persons and unemployed persons is different from that appearing in the last issue of this bulletin, the changes were made mainly for clarity; they do not signify any change of substance in the definitions, which still conform to the international standard definitions specified by the I.L.O. The use of a new questionnaire in February 1978, however, has affected the responses of informants to some extent, as indicated in paragraph 28, and this is one of the reasons for the revision of figures for earlier quarters.

Classification of industry and occupation

17. Industry is classified according to the *Australian Standard Industrial Classification* (ASIC) and occupation according to the *Classification and Classified List of Occupations, Revised June 1971*.

Revision of series

18. Because the February 1978 survey estimates are based on revised population estimates derived from the results of the 1976 Population Census and were obtained by using a new sample and new questionnaire, they are not comparable with those in previous issues of this publication.

19. In order to provide a series for earlier periods as comparable as possible with the February 1978 estimates, the survey estimates for August 1976 to November 1977 have been revised.

20. Information concerning the methods used in the revision is given in the following paragraphs.

21. *Population benchmarks.* The population survey estimates are calculated in such a way as to conform to the independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex. As a consequence, whenever these population "benchmarks" are revised it becomes necessary to revise the labour force estimates also.

22. The survey estimates for the period from August 1976 have been revised by using population benchmarks based on the results of the 1976 Population Census, adjusted for underenumeration. (For November 1977 the estimate of the civilian population 15 years of age and over was increased by 180,100 persons — from 10,153,100 to 10,333,200.)

23. As explained in *Population and Vital Statistics (Preliminary) : December Quarter 1976* (3211.0), two major changes in the population statistics have been made :

- The definition of *net migration gain* has been changed. It now excludes the effect of short-term movements, that is, movements for periods of less than one year.
- Population Census results for 1971 and 1976 have been adjusted for estimated under-enumeration. (See *Census of Population and Housing, 30 June 1976 : Population of States and Territories Adjusted for Under-enumeration as shown by Post-enumeration Survey* (2409.0).)

More information about these changes can be obtained by reference to the foregoing publications.

24. *The new sample and new questionnaire.* In the previous issue of this publication attention was drawn to the fact that a new sample based on the 1976 Population Census would be used in the February 1978 survey and that the survey data would be obtained by means of a new questionnaire.

25. The new sample was selected in order to reflect the changes in the distribution of the population shown by the 1976 Population Census results. The questionnaire, which had undergone little change since 1960 except for the inclusion in 1975 of additional questions on job-seeking, was revised to provide more accurate and more detailed information concerning the labour force.

26. Copies of both the new questionnaire and the one previously used, together with a description of the main features of the new questionnaire, are contained in *Information Paper : Questionnaires used in the Labour Force Survey (6232.0)* issued on 17 March 1978.

27. In order to provide an indication of the effects of the new sample and questionnaire, two surveys were undertaken in November 1977, one using the old sample and questionnaire and the other using the new sample and questionnaire. The surveys were carried out during the same four-week period. Because of the costs of conducting two surveys concurrently, the sample size of both November surveys was reduced to one-half of one per cent of the population (from the normal two-thirds of one per cent). The results of the two surveys were used to make adjustments to results of surveys from August 1976 to August 1977 to make them as nearly comparable as possible with results of surveys on the basis now in use.

28. It was expected that the estimates derived from the new sample and questionnaire would differ to some extent from those derived from the old sample and questionnaire, for the following reasons :

- (a) Whilst the new questionnaire was designed to collect data according to basically the same definitions as previously, it was not unexpected that improved wording of some questions aimed at collecting more accurate data would result in some changes.
- (b) A different sample can be expected to produce a different result.
- (c) Dwellings in the old sample had been included in the survey for at least three occasions and up to a maximum of nine, whilst all dwellings in the new sample were included in the survey for the first time. From experience with the old questionnaire it is considered likely that there could be differences in the quality of the data provided by new entrants into the survey and those who had been surveyed several times.

29. In revising the estimates for the period August 1976 to November 1977 the old estimates were first recalculated by incorporating revised population benchmarks, as explained in paragraphs 21 to 23. These adjusted estimates were then further revised to take account of the effect of the new sample and questionnaire. The methods used are summarised below.

30. *Estimates for November 1977.* Estimates for the various employment status categories of the population were obtained as follows :

- (i) *Employed persons.* The estimates adopted were those obtained by using the new sample and questionnaire.
- (ii) *Unemployed persons looking for full-time work.* It was considered that the new questionnaire had relatively little effect on the estimates for this category and the November 1977 estimates were obtained by averaging the results of the two November surveys. The amalgamation of the two results produced estimates based on a sample of one per cent of the population.
- (iii) *Unemployed persons looking for part-time work.* In the old questionnaire only one question was asked in order to establish whether persons had been looking for work, followed by a question on whether full-time or part-time work was being sought. In the new questionnaire two questions were asked : whether they had been looking for full-time work, and if not, whether they had been looking for part-time work. It is clear that the considerable increase in the estimated number of unemployed persons seeking part-time work resulted from the inclusion of a separate question on this aspect of unemployment. The estimates obtained by using the new sample and questionnaire were therefore adopted.
- (iv) *Labour force.* Revised estimates were obtained by adding revised estimates of employed and unemployed persons.
- (v) *Persons not in the labour force.* Revised estimates were obtained by subtracting revised labour force estimates from revised population benchmarks.

31. *Estimates for periods before November 1977.* The estimates for employed and unemployed persons for August 1976 to August 1977, adjusted to new benchmarks as in paragraph 22, were revised independently by applying to them factors derived from the November 1977 results. For each group the ratio between the estimate adopted for November (see paragraph 30) and the adjusted estimate based on new benchmarks was applied to each of the earlier adjusted estimates.

32. Estimates for the labour force and for persons not in the labour force were obtained by addition and subtraction in the same manner as outlined in paragraph 30.

33. The revision was made at the broad aggregate level only. Consequently, the revised estimates are preliminary and are subject to further revision when the detailed figures become available.

Comparability of series

34. When comparing estimates for February 1978 with those for earlier periods it should be noted that with the introduction of monthly surveys the interviews are now conducted during a two-week period, whereas formerly the period was four weeks. (See paragraph 4.) This change of timing may affect the level of the figures for any month, but particularly for months such as February, during which unemployment may be changing rapidly.

35. As explained in paragraph 18 the estimates in this bulletin are not comparable with those shown in previous issues. Revised figures for periods before August 1976 will be published as soon as they become available.

36. Discontinuities in earlier series are explained in previous issues of this bulletin.

Reliability of the estimates

37. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings they are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. An indication of the likely differences is given in the Technical Note, page 21.

Differences between population census and population survey estimates

38. The results of the 1971 population census, which have been published in a series of bulletins entitled *Summary of Population* (2221.0–2229.0), show that the census labour force estimates differ substantially from the corresponding estimates derived from the population surveys of May and August 1971.

39. The labour force definition used in the population census is similar to that used in the survey (see paragraphs 7 to 16). However, evidence from census post-enumeration surveys indicates that the personal interview approach, as used in the population survey, tends to identify a larger number of persons as being in the labour force than does the filling in of the questions on the census schedule by the householder, and that this tendency increased between the 1966 and 1971 censuses.

40. These considerations should be borne in mind if comparisons of the total labour force or of labour force participation rates are made between the 1971 census and the 1971 labour force survey estimates.

Seasonally adjusted estimates

41. As explained in previous issues of this publication, the move to the higher level of unemployment since 1974 appears to have been accompanied by shifts in the pattern of seasonal variation. For this reason the publication of seasonally adjusted figures of unemployment has been suspended. The matter will be kept under review.

42. Seasonally adjusted figures of employed persons, the labour force and labour force participation rates are shown in Table 6. These estimates will continue to be published at quarterly intervals.

43. Calculation of seasonally adjusted monthly figures will not be possible until survey results for two or three years are available.

Related publications

44. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request :

Unemployment : Preliminary Estimates (6201.0)

The Labour Force (Preliminary) (6202.0)

Information Paper : Questionnaires used in the Labour Force Survey (6232.0)

Employment and Unemployment (6213.0)

Publications listed on page 23.

All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications 1977* (1101.0), which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

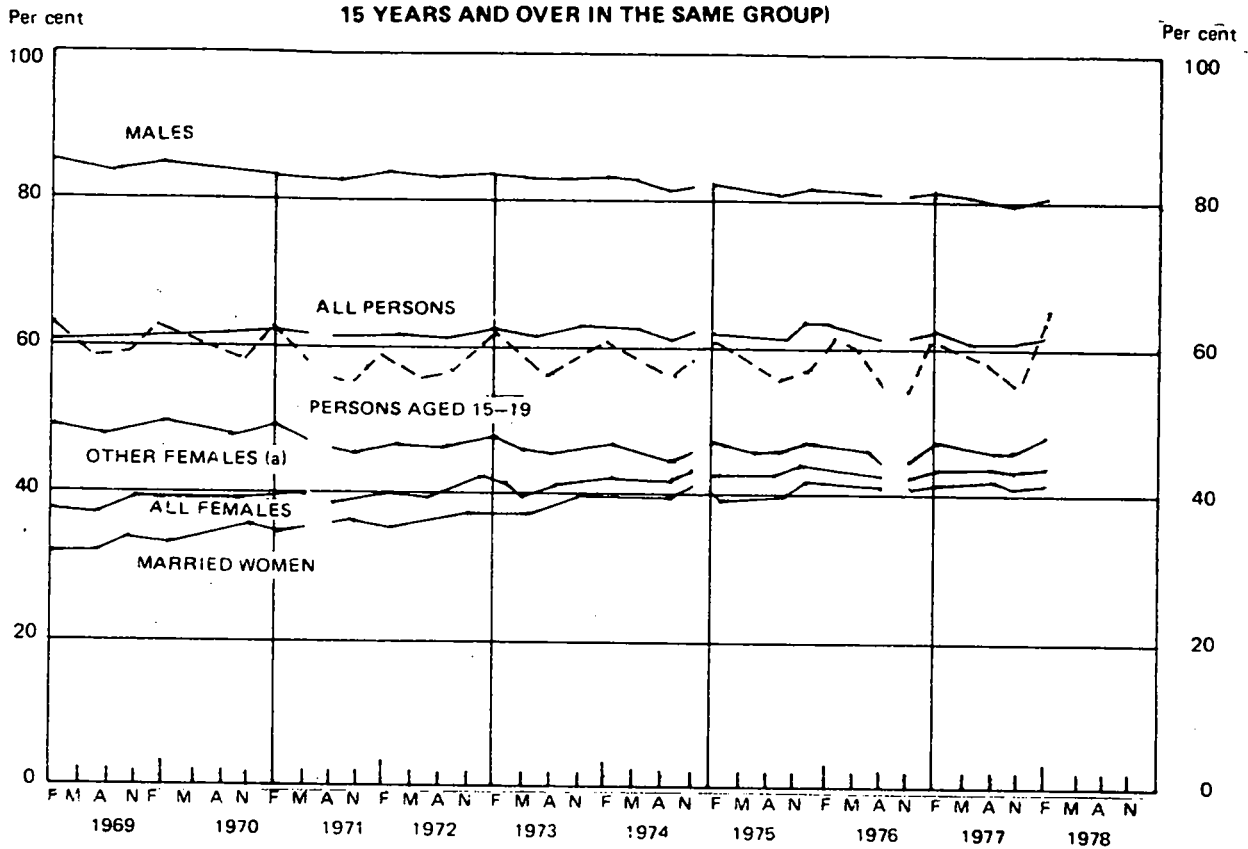
- * Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 5, page 21.
- † Affected by industrial dispute.
- .. Figures not available or not applicable.

Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES

(THE LABOUR FORCE IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER IN THE SAME GROUP)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

(THE UNEMPLOYED IN EACH GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE IN THE SAME GROUP)

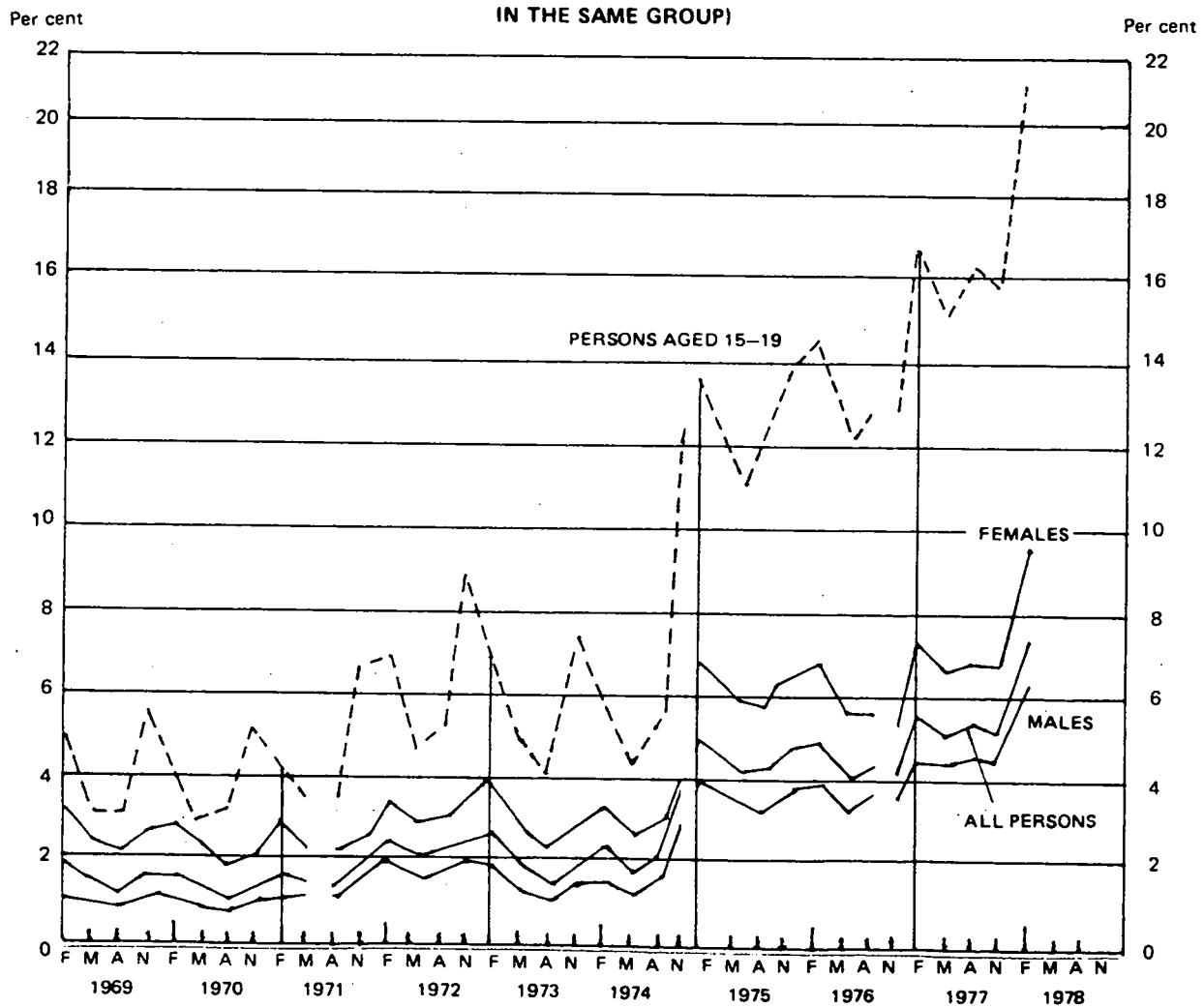


TABLE 1. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

TABLE 11. CIVILIAN POPULATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT										
Month	Unemployed (a)									
	Employed (a)	Looking for full-time work		Looking for part-time work	Total	Labour force (a)	Not in labour force (a)	Civilian population aged 15 years and over (a)	Unemployment rate (a)	Participation rate (a)
		Aged 15-19 years looking for first job (a)	Total							
					- '000 -	- per cent -				
MALES										
1976 -										
August †	3,836.3	10.3	142.7	13.9	156.6	3,992.9	1,000.1	4,993.0	3.9	80.0
November	3,866.0	13.3	137.6	17.6	155.2	4,021.2	991.8	5,012.9	3.9	80.2
1977 -										
February	3,890.2	21.8	166.1	20.0	186.1	4,076.2	963.1	5,039.4	4.6	80.9
May	3,891.5	13.4	163.0	21.7	184.7	4,076.2	985.8	5,062.0	4.5	80.5
August	3,866.8	12.6	168.5	21.6	190.1	4,056.9	1,024.9	5,081.8	4.7	79.8
November	3,867.3	16.2	165.1	18.0	183.1	4,050.4	1,055.7	5,106.1	4.5	79.3
1978 -										
February (b)	3,857.4	40.2	235.4	19.5	255.0	4,112.4	1,023.2	5,135.6	6.2	80.1
Standard error of -										
February estimates (c)	14.0	2.2	4.2	1.6	4.3	14.3	8.0	..	0.1	0.3
Other estimates (c)	13.9-14.0	1.2-1.6	3.4-3.9	1.4-1.7	3.7-4.0	14.2-14.3	7.9-8.3	..	0.1	0.3
MARRIED WOMEN										
1976 -										
August †	1,337.8	*	34.4	28.8	63.2	1,400.9	1,975.9	3,376.8	4.5	41.5
November	1,361.6	*	27.0	24.3	51.4	1,412.9	1,968.9	3,381.8	3.6	41.8
1977 -										
February	1,355.5	*	42.2	40.5	82.8	1,438.3	1,963.3	3,401.6	5.8	42.3
May	1,382.0	*	42.7	31.9	74.6	1,456.6	1,950.4	3,407.0	5.1	42.8
August	1,374.5	*	42.0	34.7	76.8	1,451.2	1,953.5	3,404.7	5.3	42.6
November	1,368.9	*	34.4	33.4	67.7	1,436.6	1,963.7	3,400.3	4.7	42.3
1978 -										
February (b)	1,320.9	*	53.2	39.6	92.8	1,413.6	1,994.4	3,408.1	6.6	41.5
Standard error of -										
February estimates (c)	9.0	..	2.4	2.1	3.0	9.2	10.5	..	0.2	0.3
Other estimates (c)	9.0-9.1	..	1.8-2.2	1.7-2.1	2.4-2.9	9.2-9.3	10.5	..	0.2	0.3
ALL FEMALES										
1976 -										
August †	2,061.5	11.3	94.1	42.0	136.1	2,197.6	2,909.8	5,107.4	6.2	43.0
November	2,089.0	13.4	87.4	38.9	126.3	2,215.3	2,914.9	5,130.2	5.7	43.2
1977 -										
February	2,095.1	27.2	124.4	61.8	186.2	2,281.3	2,874.0	5,155.3	8.2	44.3
May	2,132.7	16.1	112.8	56.3	169.1	2,301.8	2,878.4	5,180.2	7.3	44.4
August	2,128.6	17.5	114.8	54.4	169.2	2,297.8	2,904.3	5,202.1	7.4	44.2
November	2,128.2	16.8	112.4	51.4	163.7	2,291.9	2,935.3	5,227.2	7.1	43.8
1978 -										
February (b)	2,074.8	40.5	160.3	61.8	222.1	2,296.9	2,961.8	5,258.7	9.7	43.7
Standard error of -										
February estimates (c)	10.8	2.1	3.8	2.5	4.2	11.3	12.3	..	0.2	0.2
Other estimates (c)	10.8-11.0	1.2-1.8	2.9-3.4	2.1-2.5	3.4-4.0	11.2-11.3	12.4-12.6	..	0.2	0.2
PERSONS										
1976 -										
August †	5,897.8	21.5	236.8	55.9	292.7	6,190.5	3,909.8	10,100.4	4.7	61.3
November	5,955.0	26.7	225.0	56.5	281.5	6,236.5	3,906.7	10,143.2	4.5	61.5
1977 -										
February	5,985.2	49.0	290.5	81.8	372.3	6,357.5	3,837.1	10,194.6	5.9	62.4
May	6,024.2	29.5	275.8	78.0	353.8	6,378.0	3,864.2	10,242.2	5.5	62.3
August	5,995.4	30.1	283.3	76.0	359.3	6,354.7	3,929.2	10,283.9	5.7	61.8
November	5,995.4	33.0	277.4	69.4	346.8	6,342.2	3,991.0	10,333.2	5.5	61.4
1978 -										
February (b)	5,932.3	80.6	395.8	81.3	477.0	6,409.3	3,985.0	10,394.3	7.4	61.7
Standard error of -										
February estimates (c)	16.5	2.8	5.3	2.9	5.9	17.3	14.2	..	0.1	0.2
Other estimates (c)	16.5-16.7	1.6-2.3	4.3-4.8	2.4-2.9	4.7-5.2	17.0-17.2	14.2-14.4	..	0.1	0.2

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) First of monthly series. Figures relate mainly to two weeks ending February 5 and 12, in contrast to figures for earlier months which relate mainly to four weeks spread throughout the month. (c) For information on standard errors see Technical Note, page 21.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 2. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND MARITAL STATUS, FEBRUARY 1978

	Unemployed (a)			Total	Labour force (a)	Not in labour force (a)	Civilian population aged 15 years and over (a)	Unemploy- ment rate (a)	Participa- tion rate (a)
	Employed (a)	Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work						
- '000 -									
- per cent -									
Males -									
Married	2,729.6	87.9	4.0	92.0	2,821.6	556.7	3,378.3	3.3	83.5
Other (b)	1,127.8	147.5	15.5	163.0	1,290.8	466.6	1,757.3	12.6	73.5
Total	3,857.4	235.4	19.5	255.0	4,112.4	1,023.2	5,135.6	6.2	80.1
Females -									
Married	1,320.9	53.2	39.6	92.8	1,413.6	1,994.4	3,408.1	6.6	41.5
Other (b)	754.0	107.1	22.2	129.3	883.3	967.4	1,850.6	14.6	47.7
Total	2,074.8	160.3	61.8	222.1	2,296.9	2,961.8	5,258.7	9.7	43.7
Persons	5,932.3	395.8	81.3	477.0	6,409.3	3,985.0	10,394.3	7.4	61.7

For footnotes see below.

TABLE 3. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS, STATES AND TERRITORIES, FEBRUARY 1978

State or Territory	Employed (a)	Unemployed (a)		Total	Labour force (a)	Not in labour force (a)	Civilian population aged 15 years and over (a)	Unemployment rate (a)	Participation rate (a)
		Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work						
- '000 -									
- per cent -									
MALES									
N.S.W.	1,354.8	85.9	7.1	93.0	1,447.8	367.8	1,815.6	6.4	79.7
Vic.	1,037.9	53.5	5.4	58.9	1,096.8	270.6	1,367.4	5.4	80.2
Qld	567.5	42.1	3.1	45.2	612.8	166.7	779.5	7.4	78.6
S.A.	356.8	21.4	*	22.9	379.6	91.9	471.5	6.0	80.5
W.A.	344.3	19.5	*	20.4	364.7	78.7	443.4	5.6	82.3
Tas.	111.5	7.0	*	7.4	118.9	29.6	148.5	6.2	80.1
N.T.	29.1	2.8	*	2.8	31.9	8.0	39.9	8.7	80.0
A.C.T.	55.6	3.1	*	4.3	59.9	9.9	69.8	7.2	85.8
Australia	3,857.4	235.4	19.5	255.0	4,112.4	1,023.2	5,135.6	6.2	80.1
FEMALES									
N.S.W.	735.7	58.0	20.1	78.1	813.8	1,064.5	1,878.3	9.6	43.3
Vic.	568.1	40.5	14.3	54.8	622.9	791.9	1,414.8	8.8	44.0
Qld	292.9	24.2	9.7	33.9	326.8	465.0	791.8	10.4	41.3
S.A.	196.9	16.4	6.2	22.6	219.4	266.6	486.0	10.3	45.2
W.A.	175.4	13.3	8.0	21.3	196.8	237.4	434.1	10.8	45.3
Tas.	54.2	4.5	1.5	6.0	60.2	90.5	150.7	9.9	39.9
N.T.	13.3	*	*	1.7	15.1	15.9	31.0	11.3	48.6
A.C.T.	38.3	2.3	*	3.7	42.0	30.1	72.0	8.8	58.3
Australia	2,074.8	160.3	61.8	222.1	2,296.9	2,961.8	5,258.7	9.7	43.7
PERSONS									
N.S.W.	2,090.5	143.9	27.2	171.1	2,261.6	1,432.3	3,693.9	7.6	61.2
Vic.	1,606.0	94.0	19.7	113.7	1,719.8	1,062.5	2,782.2	6.6	61.8
Qld	860.4	66.4	12.8	79.1	939.6	631.8	1,571.3	8.4	59.8
S.A.	553.6	37.7	7.7	45.4	599.1	358.5	957.5	7.6	62.6
W.A.	519.7	32.8	8.9	41.8	561.4	316.0	877.5	7.4	64.0
Tas.	165.7	11.5	1.8	13.4	179.1	120.1	299.2	7.5	59.8
N.T.	42.5	3.9	*	4.5	47.0	23.9	70.8	9.5	66.3
A.C.T.	93.9	5.4	2.6	8.0	101.9	40.0	141.8	7.9	71.8
Australia	5,932.3	395.8	81.3	477.0	6,409.3	3,985.0	10,394.3	7.4	61.7

(a) For scope of the estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced.

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 4. CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS, STATE CAPITAL CITIES, FEBRUARY 1978

Capital City	Employed (a)	Unemployed (a)		Total	Labour force (a)	Not in labour force (a)	Civilian population aged 15 years and over (a)	Unemployment rate (a)	Participation rate (a)
		Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work						
- '000 -					- per cent -				
MALES									
Sydney	863.3	53.0	4.4	57.4	920.7	226.5	1,147.2	6.2	80.3
Melbourne	738.2	40.6	4.5	45.0	783.2	193.5	976.7	5.7	80.2
Brisbane	265.4	17.6	*	19.1	284.5	74.7	359.2	6.7	79.2
Adelaide	251.6	17.1	*	18.0	269.6	70.1	339.7	6.7	79.4
Perth	230.1	14.8	*	15.6	245.7	58.4	304.1	6.3	80.8
Hobart	44.9	2.8	*	3.1	48.0	11.9	59.8	6.4	80.1
Total	2,393.6	145.9	12.2	158.1	2,551.7	635.0	3,186.7	6.2	80.1
FEMALES									
Sydney	512.7	34.1	12.4	46.5	559.2	661.5	1,220.7	8.3	45.8
Melbourne	426.8	28.9	11.6	40.5	467.3	556.3	1,023.6	8.7	45.7
Brisbane	149.1	12.1	5.5	17.6	166.7	218.0	384.7	10.6	43.3
Adelaide	148.5	12.7	4.9	17.6	166.1	195.2	361.3	10.6	46.0
Perth	133.8	9.9	6.2	16.1	149.8	169.7	319.5	10.7	46.9
Hobart	24.2	2.1	*	2.9	27.1	34.6	61.7	10.9	43.9
Total	1,394.9	99.8	41.5	141.3	1,536.2	1,835.2	3,371.4	9.2	45.6
PERSONS									
Sydney	1,376.0	87.1	16.8	103.9	1,479.9	888.0	2,367.9	7.0	62.5
Melbourne	1,164.9	69.5	16.1	85.6	1,250.5	749.7	2,000.2	6.8	62.5
Brisbane	414.5	29.7	7.0	36.7	451.2	292.6	743.8	8.1	60.7
Adelaide	400.1	29.8	5.7	35.6	435.7	265.3	701.0	8.2	62.2
Perth	363.9	24.7	7.0	31.7	395.5	228.0	623.6	8.0	63.4
Hobart	69.1	4.9	*	6.0	75.1	46.5	121.5	8.0	61.8
Total	3,788.5	245.7	53.7	299.4	4,087.9	2,470.2	6,558.1	7.3	62.3

(a) In scope of the estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16.

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 5. CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a), BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS, BIRTHPLACE AND PERIOD OF ARRIVAL IN AUSTRALIA, FEBRUARY 1978

PERIOD OF ARRIVAL IN AUSTRALIA, FEBRUARY 1978							
	Employed (a)		Unemployed (a)		Labour force (a)	Unemployment rate (a)	Participation rate (b)
	Full-time	Total	Looking for full-time work	Total			
- '000 -					- per cent -		
MALES							
Born in Australia	2,649.6	2,796.5	163.3	177.9	2,974.4	6.0	80.2
Born outside Australia	1,020.0	1,060.9	72.1	77.0	1,137.9	6.8	82.8
Italy	..	118.8	..	7.9	126.8	6.3	84.6
Greece	..	63.2	..	7.3	70.6	10.4	86.7
Yugoslavia	..	63.5	..	5.9	69.4	8.4	87.6
U.K. and Ireland	..	391.3	..	28.9	420.3	6.9	79.5
New Zealand	..	43.1	..	4.0	47.2	8.6	81.8
Other	..	380.8	..	22.9	403.7	5.7	84.6
Arrived before 1961	459.1	478.7	19.1	19.9	498.6	4.0	76.9
1961-1965	155.5	163.2	14.8	15.4	178.6	8.6	88.4
1966-1970	214.6	221.3	19.1	20.4	241.7	8.4	88.2
1971-1976	161.8	167.7	15.8	17.7	185.4	9.6	90.0
Jan. 1977 to Feb. 1978	29.1	30.1	*	*	33.6	*	77.6
MARRIED WOMEN							
Born in Australia	512.2	925.0	29.3	55.6	980.5	5.7	39.2
Born outside Australia	262.0	395.9	23.9	37.2	433.1	8.6	48.1
Italy	..	41.6	..	*	43.9	*	43.9
Greece	..	26.7	..	*	29.1	*	48.6
Yugoslavia	..	31.2	..	*	34.6	*	62.4
U.K. and Ireland	..	144.8	..	14.8	159.6	9.3	45.9
New Zealand	..	12.6	..	*	14.2	*	48.3
Other	..	139.0	..	12.6	151.7	8.3	49.3
Arrived before 1961	90.3	154.0	5.6	10.3	164.3	6.2	39.8
1961-1965	45.9	71.2	*	6.6	77.8	8.5	54.2
1966-1970	60.6	86.4	7.0	10.3	96.7	10.7	56.0
1971-1976	59.4	76.6	4.9	6.2	82.8	7.5	56.7
Jan. 1977 to Feb. 1978	5.8	7.7	*	*	11.5	*	45.8
ALL FEMALES							
Born in Australia	1,017.4	1,551.1	115.2	158.8	1,709.9	9.3	43.2
Born outside Australia	366.7	523.7	45.1	63.3	587.0	10.8	48.0
Italy	..	47.9	..	*	51.1	*	42.7
Greece	..	30.7	..	*	33.8	*	47.3
Yugoslavia	..	35.8	..	4.8	40.6	11.9	59.3
U.K. and Ireland	..	204.4	..	27.3	231.7	11.8	45.9
New Zealand	..	22.1	..	5.1	27.2	18.8	56.3
Other	..	182.9	..	19.7	202.6	9.7	49.3
Arrived before 1961	119.6	189.8	8.1	13.7	203.5	6.7	36.9
1961-1965	70.3	100.1	8.8	13.2	113.3	11.6	57.0
1966-1970	85.9	118.5	12.8	17.6	136.1	12.9	57.3
1971-1976	78.4	99.6	9.5	12.0	111.7	10.8	57.7
Jan. 1977 to Feb. 1978	12.4	15.8	6.0	6.7	22.5	29.9	53.4
PERSONS							
Born in Australia	3,667.0	4,347.7	278.5	336.7	4,684.3	7.2	61.1
Born outside Australia	1,386.7	1,584.6	117.2	140.4	1,724.9	8.1	66.4
Italy	..	166.7	..	11.2	177.9	6.3	66.0
Greece	..	93.9	..	10.4	104.4	10.0	68.3
Yugoslavia	..	99.3	..	10.7	110.0	9.7	74.5
U.K. and Ireland	..	595.7	..	56.3	652.0	8.6	63.1
New Zealand	..	65.2	..	9.2	74.4	12.3	70.2
Other	..	563.7	..	42.6	606.3	7.0	68.3
Arrived before 1961	578.7	668.5	27.2	33.6	702.1	4.8	58.5
1961-1965	225.8	263.2	23.5	28.6	291.9	9.8	72.8
1966-1970	300.5	339.7	31.8	38.0	377.7	10.1	73.8
1971-1976	240.2	267.3	25.3	29.8	297.0	10.0	74.4
Jan. 1977 to Feb. 1978	41.5	45.9	9.4	10.3	56.2	18.3	65.7

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Excludes persons in institutions. See definition, paragraph 12.

* Less than 4,000 or based on a figure less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 6. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES (a)(b)

Month	Males		Married women		All females		Persons	
	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted	Original	Seasonally adjusted
EMPLOYED (b) ('000)								
1976 -								
August †	3,836.3	3,849.9	1,337.8	1,344.4	2,061.5	2,076.8	5,897.8	5,922.4
November	3,866.0	3,869.1	1,361.6	1,339.1	2,089.0	2,061.2	5,955.0	5,931.3
1977 -								
February	3,890.2	3,882.3	1,355.5	1,368.1	2,095.1	2,101.9	5,985.2	5,985.7
May	3,891.5	3,882.6	1,382.0	1,385.6	2,132.7	2,138.9	6,024.2	6,022.8
August	3,866.8	3,880.5	1,374.5	1,381.2	2,128.6	2,144.3	5,995.4	6,020.1
November	3,867.3	3,870.1	1,368.9	1,346.4	2,128.2	2,099.6	5,995.4	5,971.2
1978 -								
February (c)	3,857.4	3,850.1	1,320.9	1,333.2	2,074.8	2,082.3	5,932.3	5,934.2
LABOUR FORCE (b) ('000)								
1976 -								
August †	3,992.9	4,010.4	1,400.9	1,413.3	2,197.6	2,225.0	6,190.5	6,235.7
November	4,021.2	4,033.7	1,412.9	1,395.0	2,215.3	2,193.9	6,236.5	6,228.1
1977 -								
February	4,076.2	4,046.8	1,438.3	1,439.1	2,281.3	2,262.2	6,357.5	6,308.7
May	4,076.2	4,075.3	1,456.6	1,461.6	2,301.8	2,315.5	6,378.0	6,389.8
August	4,056.9	4,074.5	1,451.2	1,463.9	2,297.8	2,325.9	6,354.7	6,400.7
November	4,050.4	4,063.0	1,436.6	1,418.8	2,291.9	2,270.2	6,342.2	6,334.1
1978 -								
February (c)	4,112.4	4,083.0	1,413.6	1,414.1	2,296.9	2,277.8	6,409.3	6,360.3
PARTICIPATION RATE (b) (per cent)								
1976 -								
August †	80.0	80.4	41.5	41.6	43.0	43.4	61.3	61.6
November	80.2	80.5	41.8	41.4	43.2	42.9	61.5	61.6
1977 -								
February	80.9	80.4	42.3	42.3	44.3	44.0	62.4	62.0
May	80.5	80.3	42.8	43.1	44.4	44.6	62.3	62.3
August	79.8	80.3	42.6	42.6	44.2	44.6	61.8	62.1
November	79.3	79.6	42.3	42.0	43.8	43.5	61.4	61.5
1978 -								
February (c)	80.1	79.6	41.5	41.5	43.7	43.4	61.7	61.3

(a) The methods used to seasonally adjust these figures are explained in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, 1977* (1308.0). See also paragraphs 41 to 43. (b) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (c) First of monthly series. Figures relate mainly to the two weeks ending February 5 and 12 in contrast to figures for earlier months which relate mainly to four weeks spread throughout the month.

TABLE 7. CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a), BY AGE, FEBRUARY 1978

Age group (years)	Number ('000)				Participation rate (a) (per cent)			
	Males	Married women	All females	Persons	Males	Married women	All females	Persons
15-19	435.3	21.9	393.5	828.8	67.2	58.6	63.1	65.2
20-24	542.1	184.5	409.8	951.9	92.5	57.4	69.7	81.1
25-34	1,072.7	436.9	551.4	1,624.1	96.2	46.1	50.1	73.3
35-44	803.6	387.0	436.4	1,240.0	96.1	53.7	54.5	75.8
45-54	723.8	280.4	343.9	1,067.7	92.1	44.0	46.0	69.6
55-59	289.0	73.0	103.5	392.5	85.3	28.1	30.2	57.6
60-64	173.4	20.6	36.9	210.3	62.1	10.0	12.2	36.2
65 and over	72.5	9.3	21.6	94.0	13.3	3.4	2.9	7.2
Total	4,112.4	1,413.6	2,296.9	6,409.3	80.1	41.5	43.7	61.7

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16.

TABLE 8. LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES (a), BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, FEBRUARY 1978
(Per cent)

Age group (years)	Born in Australia			Born outside Australia		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
15-19	67.9	62.9	65.5	65.4	64.9	65.2
20-24	93.1	69.6	81.3	92.9	70.9	81.9
25-34	97.0	48.3	72.4	96.1	55.7	76.8
35-44	96.8	51.6	73.9	96.3	61.7	80.5
45-54	92.0	44.5	67.7	93.4	50.9	75.1
55-59	85.2	28.9	55.6	89.0	34.5	64.3
60-64	61.1	12.5	35.8	68.9	11.9	39.3
65 and over	14.2	2.9	7.5	13.0	4.1	8.5
Total	80.2	43.2	61.1	82.8	48.0	66.4

(a) Excludes persons in institutions. See definitions, paragraph 12.

TABLE 9. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a); FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STATUS, BY AGE, FEBRUARY 1978
(000)

	Age group (years)						
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	Total
MALES							
Full-time workers (a)	297.7	470.5	996.8	757.9	684.1	462.5	3,669.6
Part-time workers (a)	51.0	20.7	26.3	17.6	18.9	53.2	187.8
Total	348.8	491.2	1,023.1	775.5	703.0	515.7	3,857.4
MARRIED WOMEN							
Full-time workers (a)	16.6	134.8	221.1	193.7	153.6	54.4	774.2
Part-time workers (a)	*	32.6	177.6	173.0	116.1	45.2	546.7
Total	18.9	167.4	398.7	366.7	269.6	99.6	1,320.9
ALL FEMALES							
Full-time workers (a)	235.0	312.6	310.8	233.3	201.1	91.3	1,384.1
Part-time workers (a)	69.5	54.6	192.5	180.6	127.8	65.7	690.8
Total	304.6	367.2	503.3	413.9	328.9	157.0	2,074.8
PERSONS							
Full-time workers (a)	532.8	783.1	1,307.6	991.2	885.2	553.8	5,053.7
Part-time workers (a)	120.6	75.3	218.8	198.3	146.7	118.9	878.5
Total	653.4	858.4	1,526.4	1,189.5	1,031.9	672.8	5,932.3

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 10. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY INDUSTRY, FEBRUARY 1978
(000)

Industry division or sub-division	Males	Married women	Other females (b)	All females	Persons		
					Full-time workers (a)	Part-time workers (a)	Total
Agriculture	275.7	68.9	14.0	82.9	301.2	57.4	358.6
Forestry, fishing and hunting	22.7	*	*	*	22.2	4.2	26.3
Mining	80.3	*	*	5.4	83.8	*	85.7
Manufacturing	924.4	225.1	77.2	302.4	1,157.0	69.7	1,226.7
Food, beverages and tobacco	147.2	36.9	14.1	51.1	183.1	15.1	198.3
Metal products, machinery and equipment	180.7	21.6	7.9	29.4	204.7	5.5	210.1
Other manufacturing	596.5	166.6	55.2	221.8	769.2	49.1	818.3
Construction	430.7	34.2	7.6	41.7	432.8	39.6	472.5
Wholesale and retail trade	702.0	303.0	195.0	498.0	960.1	239.9	1,200.0
Transport and storage	274.7	27.5	14.7	42.3	293.8	23.2	317.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	254.4	108.2	103.1	211.3	397.8	67.9	465.7
Community services (c)	340.9	342.6	206.7	549.4	686.3	203.9	890.3
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	163.1	137.3	75.0	212.3	227.4	147.9	375.3
Other industries (d)	388.5	67.6	58.1	125.7	491.3	22.9	514.2
Total	3,857.4	1,320.9	754.0	2,074.8	5,053.7	878.5	5,932.3

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Comprises health; education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services. (d) Comprises electricity, gas and water; communication; and public administration and defence.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 11. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY INDUSTRY AND BIRTHPLACE, FEBRUARY 1978

Industry division or sub-division	Born in Australia			Born outside Australia		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
NUMBER ('000)						
Agriculture	248.5	68.6	317.1	27.2	14.3	41.5
Mining	58.9	*	62.7	21.5	*	23.0
Manufacturing	579.0	168.6	747.6	345.4	133.8	479.1
Food, beverages and tobacco	109.7	33.2	142.9	37.5	17.9	55.4
Metal products, machinery and equipment	109.2	16.3	125.5	71.5	13.2	84.6
Other manufacturing	360.1	119.1	479.2	236.4	102.7	339.1
Construction	296.3	30.5	326.9	134.4	11.2	145.6
Wholesale and retail trade	520.4	390.6	911.0	181.6	107.4	288.9
Transport and storage	208.9	32.7	241.6	65.8	9.5	75.4
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	194.6	167.9	362.5	59.8	43.3	103.2
Community services (b)	250.0	421.0	671.0	90.9	128.4	219.3
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	116.9	165.6	282.5	46.2	46.6	92.8
Other industries (c)	323.0	101.6	424.6	88.2	27.7	115.9
Total	2,796.5	1,551.1	4,347.7	1,060.9	523.7	1,584.6
PROPORTION OF TOTAL (Per cent)						
Agriculture	8.9	4.4	7.3	2.6	2.7	2.6
Mining	2.1	*	1.4	2.0	*	1.4
Manufacturing	20.7	10.9	17.2	32.6	25.5	30.2
Food, beverages and tobacco	3.9	2.1	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.5
Metal products, machinery and equipment	3.9	1.1	2.9	6.7	2.5	5.3
Other manufacturing	12.9	7.7	11.0	22.3	19.6	21.4
Construction	10.6	2.0	7.5	12.7	2.1	9.2
Wholesale and retail trade	18.6	25.2	21.0	17.1	20.5	18.2
Transport and storage	7.5	2.1	5.6	6.2	1.8	4.8
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	7.0	10.8	8.3	5.6	8.3	6.5
Community services (b)	8.9	27.1	15.4	8.6	24.5	13.8
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	4.2	10.7	6.5	4.4	8.9	5.9
Other industries (c)	11.6	6.6	9.8	8.3	5.3	7.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) See note (c) to Table 10. (c) Comprises forestry, fishing and hunting; electricity, gas and water; communication; and public administration and defence.

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 12. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY OCCUPATION, FEBRUARY 1978 ('000)

Occupation group	Males	Married women	Other females (b)	All females	Persons		
					Full-time workers (a)	Part-time workers (a)	Total
Professional and technical	444.6	200.3	142.3	342.6	668.3	118.9	787.2
Administrative, executive and managerial	326.7	32.8	10.7	43.6	355.3	14.9	370.3
Clerical	329.4	408.0	297.7	705.7	843.1	191.9	1,035.0
Sales	251.2	155.2	103.2	258.4	369.8	139.9	509.6
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	343.6	69.5	14.6	84.1	360.3	67.4	427.7
Miners, quarrymen and related workers	36.2	*	*	*	36.1	*	36.6
Transport and communication	297.8	28.4	15.8	44.2	315.8	26.2	342.0
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	1,620.1	173.4	56.1	229.5	1,754.6	95.1	1,849.6
Metal and electrical workers	652.2	32.4	7.0	39.4	680.3	11.2	691.5
Building workers	331.8	*	*	6.0	323.8	14.0	337.8
Other	636.1	137.2	47.0	184.2	750.4	69.9	820.3
Service, sport and recreation	207.8	252.8	113.6	366.4	350.4	223.8	574.2
Total	3,857.4	1,320.9	754.0	2,074.8	5,053.7	878.5	5,932.3

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 13. EMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY OCCUPATION AND BIRTHPLACE, FEBRUARY 1978

Occupation group	Born in Australia			Born outside Australia		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
NUMBER ('000)						
Professional and technical	321.6	270.3	591.9	123.0	72.3	195.3
Administrative, executive and managerial	236.1	32.9	269.0	90.6	10.7	101.2
Clerical	263.3	562.3	825.7	66.0	143.3	209.4
Sales	186.1	203.0	389.1	65.2	55.4	120.5
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	303.9	69.2	373.2	39.7	14.9	54.6
Miners, quarrymen and related workers	24.9	*	25.2	11.3	*	11.3
Transport and communication	229.9	35.8	265.7	67.9	8.4	76.4
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	1,087.2	118.1	1,205.2	532.9	111.5	644.4
Metal and electrical workers	437.5	15.2	452.7	214.6	24.1	238.8
Building workers	217.9	*	221.7	113.9	*	116.1
Other tradesmen etc.	431.7	99.0	530.7	204.4	85.2	289.6
Service, sport and recreation	143.5	259.1	402.7	64.2	107.3	171.5
Total	2,796.5	1,551.1	4,347.7	1,060.9	523.7	1,584.6
PROPORTION OF TOTAL (Per cent)						
Professional and technical	11.5	17.4	13.6	11.6	13.8	12.3
Administrative, executive and managerial	8.4	2.1	6.2	8.5	2.0	6.4
Clerical	9.4	36.3	19.0	6.2	27.4	13.2
Sales	6.7	13.1	8.9	6.1	10.6	7.6
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	10.9	4.5	8.6	3.7	2.8	3.4
Miners, quarrymen and related workers	0.9	*	0.6	1.1	*	0.7
Transport and communication	8.2	2.3	6.1	6.4	1.6	4.8
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	38.9	7.6	27.7	50.2	21.3	40.7
Metal and electrical workers	15.6	1.0	10.4	20.2	4.6	15.1
Building workers	7.8	*	5.1	10.7	*	7.3
Other tradesmen etc.	15.4	6.4	12.2	19.3	16.3	18.3
Service, sport and recreation	5.1	16.7	9.3	6.1	20.5	10.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16.

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 14. EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY HOURS WORKED (a), FEBRUARY 1978

	Males	Married women	Other females (b)	All females	Persons
NUMBER EMPLOYED ('000)					
Weekly hours worked (a) —					
0 (c)	280.0	119.1	50.5	169.5	449.5
1–15	110.1	250.9	84.6	335.6	445.7
16–29	326.1	282.0	109.3	391.3	717.3
30–34	856.4	239.7	173.6	413.3	1,269.7
35–39	434.8	123.6	116.9	240.5	675.4
40	777.7	186.2	145.5	331.7	1,109.4
41–44	189.8	25.4	28.1	53.5	243.3
45–48	267.5	28.0	18.4	46.4	313.9
49 and over	615.0	66.0	27.1	93.1	708.1
Total	3,857.4	1,320.9	754.0	2,074.8	5,932.3
Full-time workers (a)	3,669.6	774.2	609.9	1,384.1	5,053.7
Part-time workers (a)	187.8	546.7	144.1	690.8	878.5
WEEKLY HOURS WORKED (a)					
Aggregate weekly hours worked (a) (million)	141.8	34.7	22.5	57.3	199.0
By full-time workers (a)	138.7	26.7	20.5	47.2	185.9
By part-time workers (a)	3.1	8.0	2.0	10.0	13.1
Average weekly hours worked (a)	36.8	26.3	29.9	27.6	33.6
By full-time workers (a)	37.8	34.5	33.6	34.1	36.8
By part-time workers (a)	16.6	14.6	14.0	14.5	14.9
By Wage and salary earners	34.9	25.9	29.6	27.4	32.2
By Others (d)	45.9	28.2	36.6	29.3	41.3

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. The figures relate to hours worked, not hours paid for. See paragraph 14. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Persons who had a job but were not at work. See definition, paragraph 14. (d) Employers; self-employed persons; unpaid family helpers who worked 15 hours or more in the survey week.

TABLE 15. AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS WORKED BY EMPLOYED PERSONS (a),
BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION, FEBRUARY 1978

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Married women</i>	<i>Other females (b)</i>	<i>All females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
INDUSTRY					
Agriculture	48.3	27.5	38.1	29.3	43.9
Forestry, fishing and hunting	37.6	*	*	*	35.9
Mining	35.8	*	*	27.6	35.3
Manufacturing	36.1	30.3	33.0	31.0	34.9
Food, beverages and tobacco	35.1	29.5	33.0	30.5	33.9
Metal products, machinery and equipment	35.7	31.5	34.1	32.2	35.2
Other manufacturing	36.5	30.3	32.8	30.9	35.0
Construction	35.3	15.4	33.8	18.7	33.8
Wholesale and retail trade	37.9	27.5	27.1	27.3	33.5
Transport and storage	37.1	26.1	32.6	28.4	35.9
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	35.5	25.2	31.1	28.1	32.1
Community services (c)	33.4	24.4	31.2	26.9	29.4
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	38.4	24.6	26.4	25.2	30.9
Other industries (d)	32.6	27.2	29.5	28.3	31.6
Total employed	36.8	26.3	29.9	27.6	33.6
OCCUPATION					
Professional and technical	34.3	24.6	31.0	27.2	31.2
Administrative, executive and managerial	43.3	35.9	36.6	36.1	42.5
Clerical	32.4	25.3	30.7	27.6	29.1
Sales	37.8	28.9	25.8	27.7	32.6
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	45.6	28.1	37.4	29.8	42.5
Transport and communication	37.4	25.6	32.2	27.9	36.1
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c. (e)	35.0	30.5	31.6	30.8	34.5
Metal and electrical workers	35.3	33.4	34.1	33.5	35.2
Building workers	34.6	*	28.5	26.6	34.5
Other tradesmen, etc.	35.0	29.9	31.4	30.3	34.0
Service, sport and recreation	35.8	23.2	27.3	24.4	28.6
Total employed	36.8	26.3	29.9	27.6	33.6

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. Figures of hours relate to average weekly hours worked not hours paid for. See paragraph 14. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Comprises health; education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services. (d) Comprises electricity, gas and water; communication and public administration and defence. (e) Includes miners, quarrymen and related workers.

* Based on a figure less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 16. FULL-TIME WORKERS (a) WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS, BY REASON, FEBRUARY 1978
(000)

<i>Reason for working less than 35 hours</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Married women</i>	<i>Other females (b)</i>	<i>All females</i>	<i>Persons</i>
Leave, holiday or flexitime	1,175.7	296.8	240.9	537.7	1,713.4
Own illness or injury	105.9	26.0	19.0	45.0	150.9
Bad weather, plant breakdown, etc.	27.0	*	*	*	30.5
Began or left job in the survey week	14.2	*	5.6	9.4	23.6
Stood down, on short time, insufficient work	31.8	5.0	*	7.3	39.1
Other reasons	30.3	10.5	5.4	15.9	46.2
Total	1,384.8	345.0	273.9	618.9	2,003.7

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 17. PART-TIME WORKERS (a) : WHETHER PREFERRED TO WORK MORE HOURS AND WHETHER
LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK, BY AGE, FEBRUARY 1978
(⁰⁰⁰)

	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
MALES							
Total	51.0	20.7	26.3	17.6	18.9	53.2	187.8
Preferred not to work more hours	36.8	15.5	20.7	13.6	14.4	48.8	149.9
Preferred to work more hours	14.2	5.2	5.6	4.0	4.5	4.4	37.9
Had actively looked for full-time work (b)	9.0	*	*	*	*	*	17.9
MARRIED WOMEN							
Total	*	32.6	177.6	173.0	116.1	45.2	546.7
Preferred not to work more hours	*	27.7	155.9	154.7	108.2	43.2	491.2
Preferred to work more hours	*	4.9	21.7	18.3	7.9	*	55.5
Had actively looked for full-time work (b)	*	*	*	*	*	*	9.2
ALL FEMALES							
Total	69.5	54.6	192.5	180.6	127.8	65.7	690.8
Preferred not to work more hours	54.2	44.7	168.4	161.2	118.5	62.9	610.0
Preferred to work more hours	15.3	9.8	24.1	19.5	9.3	*	80.8
Had actively looked for full-time work (b)	7.2	4.5	4.0	*	*	*	19.9
PERSONS							
Total	120.6	75.3	218.8	198.3	146.7	118.9	878.5
Preferred not to work more hours	91.0	60.3	189.1	174.8	132.9	111.8	759.9
Preferred to work more hours	29.5	15.0	29.7	23.5	13.8	7.2	118.6
Had actively looked for full-time work (b)	16.2	7.8	6.7	4.5	*	*	37.8

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Had actively looked for full-time work in the four weeks up to the end of the survey week.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 18. EMPLOYED MARRIED WOMEN (a), BY INDUSTRY AND HOURS WORKED (b), FEBRUARY 1978
(⁰⁰⁰)

Industry division or sub-division	Part-time workers (a)			Total	Full-time workers (a)	Total
	Hours worked (b)					
	Under 16	16-29	30-34			
Agriculture	22.1	11.2	*	36.6	32.4	68.9
Manufacturing	21.7	19.8	5.2	46.6	178.5	225.1
Construction	20.0	4.3	*	25.1	9.1	34.2
Wholesale and retail trade	67.9	54.4	10.1	132.5	170.5	303.0
Transport and storage	7.1	4.1	*	11.7	15.8	27.5
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	24.0	15.8	5.7	45.5	62.7	108.2
Community services (c)	69.2	60.4	17.4	147.0	195.6	342.6
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	50.4	27.9	5.9	84.2	53.1	137.3
Other industries (d)	9.3	6.6	*	17.5	56.5	74.0
Total	291.8	204.5	50.3	546.7	774.2	1,320.9

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Hours worked in the survey week. See definition, paragraph 14. (c) Comprises health; education, libraries, etc.; welfare and religious institutions; and other community services. (d) Comprises forestry, fishing and hunting; mining; electricity, gas and water; communication; and public administration and defence.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 19. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE AND WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK, FEBRUARY 1978

	Number unemployed ('000)					Unemployment rate (a) (per cent)				
	Married Males	All males	Married females	All females	All persons	Married males	All males	Married females	All females	All persons
LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK (a)										
Total	87.9	235.4	53.2	160.3	395.8	3.2	6.0	6.4	10.4	7.3
Aged 15-19 years	*	74.6	*	72.4	147.0	*	20.0	*	23.5	21.6
Looking for first job (a)	*	40.2	*	40.5	80.6	..	..	..	..	..
Not looking for first job	*	34.4	*	31.9	66.3	..	..	..	..	..
Attending school	*	6.5	*	6.0	12.5	..	..	..	..	..
Aged 20 years and over	86.8	160.8	51.1	87.9	248.8	3.2	4.6	6.3	7.1	5.2
20-24	10.1	48.6	12.0	36.1	84.7	6.6	9.4	8.2	10.3	9.8
25-34	28.9	47.8	19.8	27.9	75.7	3.5	4.6	8.2	8.2	5.5
35-44	47.8	27.5	11.1	12.5	39.9	2.7	3.5	5.4	5.1	3.9
45-54										
55 and over										
		20.4	6.9	9.6	30.0		2.9	4.3	4.6	3.3
		16.6	*	*	18.5		3.5	*	*	3.2
LOOKING FOR PART-TIME WORK (a)										
Total	4.0	19.5	39.6	61.8	81.3	4.1	9.4	6.7	8.2	8.5
Aged 15-19 years	*	11.9	*	16.6	28.5	*	18.9	*	19.2	19.1
Attending school	*	9.0	*	9.5	18.5	..	..	..	..	..
Aged 20 years and over	4.0	7.6	38.6	45.2	52.8	4.1	5.3	6.6	6.8	6.5
20-24	* }	4.1	{ 5.1	6.5	8.8	* }	7.9	{ 13.6	10.7	10.5
25-34										
35-44										
45-54	..	*	9.1	10.0	10.6	*	*	5.0	5.2	5.1
55 and over	..	*	5.9	5.5	5.5	*	*	3.6	4.1	3.8
									*	4.5
TOTAL										
Total	92.0	255.0	92.8	222.1	477.0	3.3	6.2	6.6	9.7	7.4
Aged 15-19 years	*	86.5	*	89.0	175.4	*	19.9	*	22.6	21.2
Attending school	*	15.5	*	15.5	31.0	..	..	..	..	..
Aged 20 years and over	90.8	168.5	89.7	133.1	301.6	3.2	4.6	6.4	7.0	5.4
20-24	10.6	50.9	17.2	42.6	93.5	6.8	9.4	9.3	10.4	9.8
25-34	29.4	49.6	38.3	48.2	97.8	3.5	4.6	8.8	8.7	6.0
35-44	22.8	28.1	20.3	22.4	50.5	3.2	3.5	5.2	5.1	4.1
45-54	14.2	20.7	10.8	15.0	35.8	2.2	2.9	3.8	4.4	3.4
55 and over	13.9	19.2	*	4.9	24.0	3.0	3.6	*	3.0	3.4

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16.

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21. .. Not available.

TABLE 20. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE, STATES, FEBRUARY 1978 ('000)

Age group (years)	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Australia (b)
MALES							
15-19	30.2	20.3	14.8	8.3	7.0	2.8	86.5
20-34	33.9	22.8	19.7	9.7	8.4	2.9	100.5
35 and over	28.9	15.8	10.8	4.9	5.0	1.7	68.0
Total	93.0	58.9	45.2	22.9	20.4	7.4	255.0
FEMALES							
15-19	34.4	18.8	13.5	9.5	8.0	3.4	89.0
20-34	29.4	23.2	15.2	8.8	9.2	1.8	90.8
35 and over	14.2	12.8	5.3	4.3	4.1	*	42.4
Total	78.1	54.8	33.9	22.6	21.3	6.0	222.1
PERSONS							
15-19	64.7	39.1	28.3	17.8	15.0	6.2	175.4
20-34	63.3	46.0	34.8	18.5	17.7	4.7	191.2
35 and over	43.1	28.6	16.0	9.1	9.1	2.5	110.4
Total	171.1	113.7	79.1	45.4	41.8	13.4	477.0

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 21. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY AGE AND BIRTHPLACE, FEBRUARY 1978

Age group (years)	Number unemployed ('000)			Unemployment rate (a) (per cent)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
BORN IN AUSTRALIA						
15-19	70.9	74.5	145.4	18.9	22.1	20.4
20 and over	107.0	84.2	191.3	4.1	6.1	4.8
20-24	38.7	31.8	70.5	8.7	9.5	9.1
25-34	29.9	30.5	60.3	3.9	7.8	5.2
35 and over	38.5	22.0	60.5	2.8	3.4	3.0
Total	177.9	158.8	336.7	6.0	9.3	7.2
BORN OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA						
15-19	15.6	14.4	30.0	26.2	25.7	25.9
20 and over	61.4	48.9	110.3	5.7	9.2	6.9
20-24	12.2	10.8	23.0	12.2	14.2	13.1
25-34	19.7	17.7	37.4	6.4	10.9	8.0
35 and over	29.5	20.4	49.9	4.4	7.0	5.2
Total	77.0	63.3	140.4	6.8	10.8	8.1

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16.

TABLE 22. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB, FEBRUARY 1978

Industry division or sub-division	Unemployment		Occupation group	Unemployment	
	Total ('000)	rate (a) (per cent)		Total ('000)	rate (a) (per cent)
Agriculture	18.5	4.9	Professional and technical	16.4	2.0
Manufacturing	76.7	5.9	Administrative, executive and managerial	4.7	1.3
Food, beverages and tobacco	14.6	6.8	Clerical	34.7	3.2
Metal products, machinery and equipment	10.6	4.8	Sales	29.0	5.4
Other manufacturing	51.5	5.9	Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters, etc.	22.7	5.0
Construction	35.7	7.0	Miners and quarrymen	*	*
Wholesale and retail trade	69.3	5.5	Transport and communication	13.4	3.8
Transport and storage	9.2	2.8	Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	132.4	6.7
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	14.8	3.1	Metal and electrical workers	30.3	4.2
Community services (b)	24.0	2.6	Building workers	27.9	7.6
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	25.4	6.3	Other tradesmen, etc.	74.3	8.3
Other industries (c)	16.3	2.5	Service, sport and recreation	34.9	5.7
Total	289.9	4.7	Total	289.9	4.7
Other (d)	187.2	..			
Total	477.0	7.4			

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) See note (c) to Table 18. (c) See note (d) to Table 18. (d) Had not worked two weeks or more in a full-time job or had not done so in the last two years. Industry and occupation was not obtained for these persons.

* Less than or based on a figure less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 23. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b), BY AGE, ETC., FEBRUARY 1978

TABLE 25. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b)								
Duration of unemployment (weeks) (b)	Age (years)			Married	Not married (c)	Looking for -		Total
	15-19	20-24	25 and over			Full-time work (d)	Part-time work (d)	
MALES								
Number unemployed ('000) -								
Under 2	7.9	*	8.7	6.8	13.8	17.0	6.1	20.6
2 and under 4	9.1	5.3	12.4	11.2	15.6	24.3		26.8
4 and under 8	20.1	10.4	20.1	16.6	34.1	45.8	4.8	50.7
8 and under 13	24.0	10.3	19.6	15.8	38.1	49.3	4.6	53.9
13 and under 26	12.3	8.5	18.8	14.4	25.2	38.2	*	39.6
26 and under 39	5.8	5.6	13.7	10.1	15.1	24.1	*	25.2
39 and under 52	4.3	4.5	*	*	*	6.2	*	6.5
52 and under 65			8.5	7.3	6.9	13.9	*	14.2
65 and over	*	*	12.5	6.9	10.7	16.6	*	17.5
Total	86.5	50.9	117.6	92.0	163.0	235.4	19.5	255.0
Average duration of unemployment								
	15.1	18.3	27.6	23.1	20.8	22.3	13.3	21.6
FEMALES								
Number unemployed ('000) -								
Under 2	6.7	4.9	19.4	19.6	11.4	16.8	14.2	31.0
2 and under 4	11.3	5.5	13.3	13.9	16.3	17.5	12.6	30.1
4 and under 8	19.2	10.4	16.7	20.2	26.1	34.9	11.4	46.3
8 and under 13	24.0	6.9	10.6	11.0	30.5	32.0	9.5	41.5
13 and under 26	12.1	6.5	10.6	10.0	19.2	24.2	4.9	29.2
26 and under 39	5.2	5.5	6.2	6.0	7.6	10.2	4.1	13.6
39 and under 52	6.9		*	*	5.4	6.7		7.4
52 and under 65		5.4	4.6	6.2	8.4	5.1	10.8	
65 and over	*	*	5.7	5.6	6.7		9.7	12.3
Total	89.0	42.6	90.5	92.8	129.3	160.3	61.8	222.1
Average duration of unemployment								
	16.3	17.9	18.2	16.9	17.7	18.9	13.5	17.4
PERSONS								
Number unemployed ('000) -								
Under 2	14.6	8.8	28.2	26.3	25.2	33.8	17.8	51.6
2 and under 4	20.4	10.8	25.7	25.0	31.9	41.8	15.1	56.9
4 and under 8	39.3	20.8	36.9	36.8	60.2	80.7	16.2	97.0
8 and under 13	48.0	17.2	30.2	26.8	68.6	81.3	14.1	95.4
13 and under 26	24.4	15.0	29.4	24.4	44.4	62.4	6.4	68.8
26 and under 39	11.0	7.9	19.9	16.1	22.7	34.4	4.4	38.8
39 and under 52	4.1	7.8	5.9	4.9	8.9	12.9	7.3	13.8
52 and under 65	7.2		13.9	11.9	13.1	22.2		25.0
65 and over	6.4	5.3	18.1	12.5	17.3	26.3		29.8
Total	175.4	93.5	208.1	184.7	292.3	395.8	81.3	477.0
Average duration of unemployment								
	15.7	18.4	23.5	20.0	19.5	20.9	13.4	19.7

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Period from the time the person began looking for work, or was laid off, to the end of the survey week. Periods of unemployment are recorded in complete weeks and this results in a slight understatement of duration. (c) Never married, widowed and divorced. (d) For definitions see paragraph 13. Includes persons laid off for the whole of the survey week.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 24. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS (a), BY INDUSTRY OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB, OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT (b), FEBRUARY 1978 ('000)

	Duration of unemployment (b) (weeks)							Total
	Under 4	4 and under 8	8 and under 13	13 and under 26	26 and under 39	39 and under 65	65 and over	
Had worked full time for two weeks or more in the last two years	70.8	59.8	47.1	49.8	28.6	25.8	7.9	289.9
Industry division –								
Manufacturing	16.7	15.6	11.8	11.6	9.6	8.5	*	76.7
Construction	5.6	8.3	7.0	6.8	4.2	*	*	35.7
Wholesale and retail trade	18.6	13.2	10.3	13.1	6.3	5.1	*	69.3
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	4.5	5.6	*	*	*	*	*	14.8
Community services (c)	7.5	5.8	6.0	4.2	*	*	*	24.0
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	7.9	5.1	*	4.4	4.3	*	*	25.4
Other industries (d)	10.0	8.7	8.8	8.9	7.4	*	*	43.9
Occupation group (e) –								
Professional and technical	5.7	6.5	4.0	*	*	*	*	16.4
Clerical	11.2	8.0	6.3	4.8	4.4	*	*	34.7
Sales	9.3	5.9	8.8	4.7	*	*	*	29.0
Farmers, fishermen, etc.	5.0	4.2	5.2	4.2	4.1	*	*	22.7
Transport and communication	5.5	5.0	*	*	*	*	*	13.4
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers, n.e.c.	25.2	27.5	22.1	21.9	17.2	14.0	4.6	132.4
Metal and electrical workers	6.6	5.6	4.4	5.1	4.6	*	*	30.3
Building workers	5.1	6.8	4.7	5.7	5.3	*	*	27.9
Other tradesmen, etc.	13.5	15.1	12.9	11.1	9.5	9.1	*	74.3
Service, sport and recreation	10.2	7.3	4.6	6.1	5.9	*	*	34.9
Other (f)	37.7	37.1	48.2	19.0	10.2	13.0	21.9	187.2
Total	108.5	97.0	95.4	68.8	38.8	38.8	29.8	477.0

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) See footnote (b) to Table 23. Duration of unemployment is not available for all industry or occupational groups because of the high standard error of the estimates. (c) See footnote (c) to Table 18. (d) Comprises agriculture; forestry, fishing and hunting; mining; electricity, gas and water; transport and storage; communication; and public administration and defence. (e) Excludes administrative, executive and managerial workers; and miners, quarrymen and related workers. (f) Had not worked two weeks or more in a full-time job or had not done so in the last two years. Industry and occupation was not obtained for these persons.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE 25. PERSONS NOT IN THE LABOUR FORCE (a), BY AGE AND MARITAL STATUS, ETC., FEBRUARY 1978

	Married males	Other males (b)	All males	Married women	Other females (b)	All females	Persons	Per cent of population (c)
	– '000 –						– per cent –	
Age (years)								
15-19	*	211.1	212.5	15.5	214.8	230.2	442.7	34.8
20-24	4.9	39.2	44.1	137.1	41.0	178.1	222.3	18.9
25-34	19.1	22.9	42.0	510.6	38.0	548.7	590.7	26.7
35-44	20.1	12.5	32.7	334.0	29.7	363.7	396.3	24.2
45-54	43.0	19.4	62.4	357.5	46.7	404.1	466.6	30.4
55-59	37.6	12.2	50.0	187.0	52.6	239.6	289.4	42.4
60-64	85.7	20.0	105.8	185.3	79.6	264.9	370.6	63.8
65 and over	344.8	129.2	473.9	267.5	464.9	732.4	1,206.4	92.8
Total	556.7	466.6	1,023.2	1,994.4	967.4	2,961.8	3,985.0	38.3
Permanently unable to work	..	..	52.9	24.7	..	77.6	132.5	..
Persons in institutions	..	..	34.7	52.9	..	17.6	72.5	..
Aged 15-20 years attending school	..	..	171.3	..	..	156.6	327.9	..

(a) For scope of estimates see paragraph 5. For definitions see paragraphs 6 to 16. (b) Never married, widowed and divorced. (c) Persons not in the labour force as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group.

* Less than 4,000. See paragraph 5, page 21.

TECHNICAL NOTE

Estimation procedure

The estimates are derived from the quarterly population survey by use of a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

Reliability of the estimates

2. Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings the estimates and the movements derived from them are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the surveys. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included in the surveys. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the surveys, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.
3. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this bulletin. Standard errors are shown in Table 1, ranges of standard errors being shown for months other than the latest. Standard errors for general application are shown in Table A, page 22. Because of the reduction in the sample size for November 1977 (see paragraph 27, page 4), the standard errors for all November estimates except those for unemployed persons looking for full-time work are approximately 15 per cent higher than those shown.
4. The size of the standard error increases with the level of the estimate, so that the larger the estimate the larger the standard error. However, it should be noted that the larger the sample estimate the smaller will be the standard error in percentage terms. Thus, larger sample estimates will be relatively more reliable than smaller estimates.
5. Very small estimates are subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this bulletin, estimates below the levels shown in Table A have not been included. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.
6. An example of the use of standard errors is as follows: In Table 3, page 8, the estimate of employed females in South Australia in February 1978 (196,900) has a standard error of about 2,000 and therefore there are about two chances in three that the value that would

have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall within the range 194,900 to 198,900 and about nineteen chances in twenty that the value will fall within the range 192,900 to 200,900.

7. As indicated in paragraph 2 the quarter-to-quarter change in the level of an estimate is also subject to sampling variability. The standard error of the change depends on the standard error of the level of the estimate, rather than on the change itself. An indication of the magnitude of standard errors of quarter-to-quarter change in the Australian estimates is given in Table B on page 22. This table can also be used as a guide to standard errors of quarter-to-quarter changes in estimates for the States and Territories. The estimates of standard error of quarter-to-quarter change apply only to estimates of change between two consecutive quarters. Changes between corresponding quarters of consecutive years, or between two other non-consecutive quarters, will generally be subject to somewhat greater sampling variability than is indicated in Table B. An example of the use of Table B is as follows: if the estimates for Australia for two successive quarters are 500,000 and 520,000 then from Table A it can be seen that the standard errors of these two estimates are of the order of 6,000 and from Table B that the standard error of the quarter-to-quarter change is 5,000. That is, there are about two chances in three that the quarter-to-quarter change lies between 15,000 and 25,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it lies between 10,000 and 30,000.
8. The standard errors of estimates relating to agricultural employment are generally somewhat higher than the standard errors of other estimates of the same magnitude. Estimates for females also tend to have higher standard errors than estimates of equivalent size for males in similar employment categories.
9. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the per cent standard error of the estimated percentage will generally be lower than the per cent standard error of the estimate of the numerator. The per cent standard errors of the numerators can be obtained from Table A.
10. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

TABLE A
STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	N.S.W. No.	Vic. No.	Qld No.	S.A. No.	W.A. No.	Tas. No.	N.T. No.	A.C.T. No.	Australia	
									No.	Per cent of estimate
1,500						250	300	300		
2,000					400	250	350	350		
2,500				500	450	250	400	400		
3,000			600	500	450	300	400	450		
4,000	900	900	700	500	500	300	450	550	800	20.0
5,000	1,000	1,000	750	550	550	350	500	600	900	18.0
10,000	1,300	1,300	900	800	700	400	650	800	1,200	12.0
20,000	1,600	1,600	1,200	1,100	1,000	400	900	1,050	1,600	8.0
50,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	500	1,300	1,500	2,300	4.6
100,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	600		2,000	3,000	3.0
200,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	2,000	2,000				4,000	2.0
300,000	5,000	5,000	2,500	2,600	2,400				5,000	1.7
500,000	6,000	6,000	3,000	3,200	3,000				6,000	1.2
1,000,000	8,000	8,000	3,700						8,000	0.8
2,000,000	10,500	10,500							10,000	0.5
5,000,000									15,500	0.3

— — — Estimated below the levels indicated have not been published — see paragraph 5, page 21.

TABLE B
STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES OF
QUARTER-TO-QUARTER CHANGE : AUSTRALIA

Standard error of quarterly level	Standard error of quarter-to-quarter change	Standard error of quarterly level	Standard error of quarter-to-quarter change
1,000	1,300	7,000	5,200
2,000	2,500	8,000	5,300
3,000	3,600	9,000	5,400
4,000	4,300	10,000	5,500
5,000	4,700	12,000	5,600
6,000	5,000	15,000	5,900

POPULATION SURVEY REPORTS

Although emphasis in the population survey is placed on the regular collection of data on demographic and labour force characteristics, supplementary surveys of particular aspects of the labour force or of other subjects are carried out from time to time. The results of these surveys are published separately. Copies of the following publications are available free on request.

<i>Title</i>	<i>Catalogue No.</i>
Alcohol and Tobacco Consumption Patterns, February 1977 (Preliminary)	4308.0
Annual Leave, August 1974	6317.0
Assisted and Unassisted Migrants, August 1972	3406.0
Australian Ex-service Personnel, Survey of, November 1966	4403.0
Ex-service Personnel, Widows and Children, November 1971	4403.0
Child Care –	
May 1969; May 1973; May 1977	4402.0
Chronic Illnesses, Injuries and Impairments –	
May 1968; May 1974	4305.0
Evening and Night Work, November 1976	6329.0
Family Status and Employment Status of the Population, November 1974 and November 1975	6223.0
Frequency of Pay –	
August 1974; August 1976; August 1977	6320.0
Income Distribution, 1968-69 (Consolidated and Revised Edition)	6505.0
Income Distribution, 1973-74 –	
Part 1	6502.0
Part 2	6503.0
Internal Migration –	
1969-70 to 1972-73 (annually); Twelve months ended April 1972, 1973 and 1974; December 1974; January 1977	3408.0
Job Tenure –	
February 1974; February 1975; August 1976	6211.0
Journey to Work and Journey to School –	
May 1970; August 1974	9205.0
Labour Force Experience –	
During 1968; During 1972; During 1974; During 1975; During 1976	6206.0
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, November 1974	6224.0
Labour Mobility –	
November 1972; February 1975; February 1976	6209.0
Leavers from School, Universities and Other Educational Institutions, Survey of –	
February 1964, 1965, 1966 and 1967	6227.0
February 1968, 1969 and 1970; February 1971 to February 1974 (Annually); May 1975; May 1976; August 1977	6227.0
Migrants in the Labour Force	6230.0
Multiple jobholding –	
November 1965; August 1966; August 1967; May 1971; August 1973; August 1975; August 1977	6216.0
Non-School Study Courses, Survey of, August 1968	Not listed
Persons Covered by Hospital and Medical Expenditure Assistance Schemes, August 1972	4303.0
Persons Aged 15 to 64 Years : Employment Status and Period Since Leaving School, May 1976	6225.0
Persons Not in the Labour Force –	
November 1975; May 1977.	6220.0
Persons Looking for Work –	
May 1976; November 1976; May 1977	6222.0
School Leavers, 1970 to 1974 : Their Employment Status and Education Experience in May 1975	6226.0
Superannuation, Survey of –	
Victoria, May 1968	Not listed
February 1974	6319.0
The Labour Force : Country of Birth and Period of Residence, February 1972	6207.0
Trade Union Members, November 1976	6325.0
Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution) –	
August 1975; August 1976; August 1977	6310.0
Work Patterns of Employees, November 1976	6328.0